

Transcript of the Testimony of

**LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD
HEARING 5-20-2024**

May 20, 2024



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STATE OF LOUISIANA

LOUISIANA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

MAY 20, 2024 BOARD MEETING

This Louisiana Gaming Control Board Meeting was taken by Belinda K. Amerson, a Certified Court Reporter in and for the State of Louisiana, at the LaSalle Building, LaBelle Hearing Room, 617 North 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana on the 20th day of May, 2024.



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APPEARANCES :

CHAIRMAN RONNIE S. JOHNS

MS. HOOD

MS. HERNANDEZ

JULIE G. BERRY

MAJOR MCNEILL

FRANCESCA L. HAMILTON-ACKER

CLAUDE D. JACKSON

LAMAR O. POOLE, JR.

JARED CONIGLIO

RONALD J. SHOLES

ASHLEY ANDERSON TRAYLOR

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CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Good morning. I'd like to call to order the Louisiana Gaming Control Board meeting for Monday, May the 20th of 2024.

And, Ms. Hood, would you call the role, please?

MS. HOOD:

Chairman Johns.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Avant.

MR. AVANT:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Berry.

MS. BERRY:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Jackson.

MR. JACKSON:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Lewis.

MS. LEWIS:

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(No response.)

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Poole.

MR. POOLE:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Hamilton-Acker.

MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Sholes.

MR. SHOLES:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Traylor.

MS. TRAYLOR:

Here.

MS. HOOD:

Colonel Hodges.

MR. MCNEAL:

Major McNeal for Colonel Hodges.

MS. HOOD:

Secretary Nelson.

MR. CONIGLIO:

Jarod Coniglio here for Secretary

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Nelson.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

We have a forum.

Thank you members for coming today. Ladies and Gentlemen, this is the item on our agenda that calls for public comments. If there's any public comment on any matter that is on the board agenda today, you're surely welcome to come up and make a comment on that agenda item.

Do I have any comments?

Seeing none, we will now move into the approval of the minutes.

Members, in your packet you have the minutes from April the 15th of 2024 meeting. I would ask for a motion to waive the reading and approve those minutes.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Ms. Berry has made that motion. Ms. Traylor has seconded that motion.

Is there any opposition to that? Hearing none, that motion carries.

Okay. We'll now move into revenue reports.

1 Ms. Jackson, good morning.

2 MS. JACKSON:

3 Good morning, Chairman Jones, Board
4 Members. My name is Donna Jackson with
5 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Audit
6 Section.

7 In April, the 14 operating
8 riverboats generated adjusted gross
9 receipts of \$138,341,248. The state
10 collected fees totalling \$29,739,713.

11 Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal
12 year '23-'24 to date are \$1.4 billion, a
13 decrease of \$43.5 million or 3% for fiscal
14 year '22-'23.

15 As of April 30th, 2024, the state
16 collected approximately \$306 million in
17 fees for fiscal year '23-'24.

18 Page 2 shows the riverboat revenue
19 broken down by regional market. The
20 overall decrease from March was \$28
21 million or 16.8%. Compared to last April,
22 this month's revenues represent a decrease
23 of \$12.5 million or 8.3%. Both March 2024
24 and April 2023 have more weekend days than
25 April of 2024, which could have

1 contributed to the decrease.

2 Next is a summary of the April 2024
3 gaming activity for Harrah's New Orleans
4 found on page 3. Harrah's generated
5 \$19,327,341 in gross gaming revenue.
6 These revenues represent a decrease from
7 last month of \$2.8 million or 13%, and a
8 decrease of \$2 million or 9.4% on the same
9 month last year. During April, the state
10 received \$5,342,466 in minimum daily
11 payments.

12 Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal
13 year '23-'24 to date are approximately
14 \$205 million, a decrease of \$13 million or
15 6% from fiscal year '22-'23.

16 As of April 30th, 2024, the state
17 collected \$54 million in fees for fiscal
18 year '23-'24.

19 Next I'll present the revenues for
20 slots at racetracks. During April, the
21 four racetrack facilities combined
22 generated adjusted gross receipts of
23 \$26,673,380, a decrease of \$5.5 million or
24 17% from the previous month, and a
25 decrease of \$1.9 million or 6.6% when

1 compared to the same month last year.
2 During April, the state collected \$4
3 million in fees.

4 Adjusted gross receipts for fiscal
5 year '23-'24 to date are \$260.8 million, a
6 decrease of \$5.3 million or 2% from fiscal
7 year '22-'23. As of April 30th, 2024, the
8 state has collected \$39.6 million in fees
9 for fiscal year '23-'24.

10 I will now move to the video gaming
11 information. There are 11,960 video
12 gaming devices activated at 1,393
13 locations. Net device revenue for April
14 2024 was \$63,637,232, a decrease of \$8.2
15 million or 11.4% when compared to March
16 2024, and a decrease of \$2.8 million or
17 4.3% when compared to last April. Total
18 franchise fees for April totaled \$19.3
19 million.

20 Fiscal year to date net device
21 revenue is \$624.6 million, a decrease of
22 \$28 million or 4.3% when compared to last
23 fiscal year.

24 As of April 30th, 2024, the state
25 has collected \$189.3 million in franchise

1 fees for fiscal year '23-'24.

2 Next, I will present the April
3 revenue for Sportsbook. During April the
4 regional sportsbooks accepted \$19.8
5 million in sports wagers, resulting in net
6 proceeds of \$1.3 million and \$119,000 in
7 state taxes.

8 The mobile sportsbooks accepted \$263
9 million in sports wagers, resulting in net
10 proceeds of \$35 million and \$5.3 million
11 in taxes paid to the state.

12 Finally, for Daily Fantasy Sports,
13 gross revenues for April were
14 approximately \$775,500, with a net revenue
15 of \$79,000 and taxes of \$6,300.

16 Questions?

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Thank you, Ms. Jackson.

19 Any questions from the Board for Ms.
20 Jackson? Any questions? Okay. I have no
21 questions.

22 Ms. Jackson, once again, thank you
23 for your great work. I appreciate it.

24 MS. JACKSON:

25 You're welcome.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Next on the agenda will be our first
3 quarter of 2004 compliance reports.

4 Good morning.

5 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL GATHE:

6 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
7 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General
8 Jeremy Gathe.

9 Today I'll present the staff reports
10 on riverboat and racetrack casino
11 licensees' compliance with employment and
12 procurement conditions for the first
13 quarter of 2024. I'll begin with the
14 riverboats.

15 The first quarter reports are taken
16 from the figures reported by the 15
17 operating riverboats to the Louisiana
18 Gaming Control Board. Also, the voluntary
19 employment conditions now reflect the
20 amended employment goals, which were
21 approved by the Board at its November
22 16th, 2023 board meeting.

23 In the first quarter of 2024,
24 approximately 8,857 people were employed
25 by the riverboat industry. Of that

1 number, 8,653 were Louisiana residents,
2 5,501 were minorities and 4,830 were
3 women. Nine licensees achieved total
4 compliance this quarter, and those
5 licensees are L'Auberge Casino Baton
6 Rouge; Horseshoe Bossier City; Boomtown
7 New Orleans; The Queen Baton Rouge; Amelia
8 Belle; Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles;
9 Margaritaville Resort Casino; Boomtown
10 Casino Bossier and L'Auberge Lake Charles.

11 Next I'll address employment. Four
12 licensees did not meet their total
13 employment goals, and they are: Live!
14 Casino & Hotel Louisiana, which achieved
15 11 out of a goal of 650; Sam's Town Hotel
16 & Casino, which achieved 380 out of a goal
17 of 385; Belle of Baton Rouge Casino, which
18 achieved 136 out of a goal of 450; and
19 Bally's Shreveport which achieved 616 out
20 of a goal of 625.

21 All licensees either met or exceeded
22 their goals in all of the subcategories
23 under the main category of employment with
24 the exception of the Belle of Baton Rouge,
25 which achieved 48.5% out of a goal of

1 51.8% under the subcategory of female
2 employment; and Treasure Chest Casino,
3 which achieved 49.6% out of a goal of 51%
4 under female employment.

5 Next I'll address procurement. The
6 licensees are grouped according to three
7 subcategories, which appear in your
8 report. Those subcategories are
9 Louisiana, minority and female
10 procurement.

11 Under Louisiana procurement, two
12 licensees did not meet their goals, and
13 those licensees are Live! Casino & Hotel
14 Louisiana, which achieved 51.1% out of a
15 75% goal, and Golden Nugget Lake Charles,
16 which achieved 60.9% out of a goal 65%.

17 Under the subcategory of minority
18 procurement, one licensee did not achieve
19 compliance with its voluntary condition,
20 and that licensee is Live! Casino &
21 Hotel, which achieved .9% out of a goal of
22 10%.

23 For female procurement three
24 licensees did not achieve compliance with
25 its voluntary conditions, and those

1 licensees are Live! Casino & Hotel, which
2 achieved 2.7% out of a goal of 10%; Belle
3 of Baton Rouge, which achieved 9.9% out of
4 a goal of 15%; and Treasure Chest Casino,
5 which achieved 17.6% out of a goal of 18%.

6 Are there any questions regarding
7 the riverboats?

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 I don't have any questions. I do
10 have a comment to make. In terms of the
11 employment goals, two of those licensees
12 that did not meet their first quarter
13 goals, they are now over their goal in
14 employment, so they've added employment
15 since -- since the last reports, so I'm --
16 I'm pleased with that.

17 Okay. Proceed. Thank you.

18 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL GATHE:

19 I'll now move on to the racetracks.
20 In the first quarter of 2024,
21 approximately 1,327 people were employed
22 by the racetrack casino industry. Of that
23 number, 1,108 were Louisiana residents,
24 694 were minorities, and 735 were women.

25 Two racetrack casinos achieved total

1 compliance this quarter, and they are
2 Evangeline Downs and Fairgrounds.

3 Delta Downs did not achieve its
4 Louisiana employment condition. It
5 achieved 61.4% out of the 80% condition.
6 And Louisiana Downs did not achieve its
7 female employment condition. It achieved
8 54.4% out of the 60% condition.

9 Under procurement, all licensees
10 either met or exceeded their goals in all
11 of the subcategories.

12 Are there any questions regarding
13 the racetracks?

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Any questions, Board Members, on the
16 racetracks?

17 No questions.

18 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL GATHE:

19 Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

21 Okay. Members, I can tell you that
22 I had conversations with the industry
23 about the goals, and I would like to
24 remind the industry here publicly today
25 that we went to great lengths and detail

1 to redo these goals just a few months ago.

2 So I would strongly ask the industry
3 to take that into consideration and put
4 every effort in your -- in your operation
5 to -- to meet these goals. Even though
6 they're voluntary, we -- we do take them
7 seriously.

8 Any questions, members? Any
9 comments? Okay.

10 Hearing none. Thank you.

11 Okay. We will move into our casino
12 gaming issues. First on our agenda will
13 be the consideration of certificate of
14 compliance for the alternate riverboat
15 inspection of the gaming vessel PNK Lake
16 Charles doing business as L'Auberge Lake
17 Charles.

18 Good morning.

19 ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS,
20 JR.:

21 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
22 Members. I'm Assistant Attorney General
23 Kanick Lewis, Junior. Here with me today
24 is Moriah Reed of AVS.

25 We're here in the matter of the

1 issue of certificate of compliance for
2 L'Auberge Lake Charles.

3 On March 20th, AVS began an
4 inspection process for the approval of
5 L'Auberge Lake Charles Casino certificate
6 of compliance.

7 Ms. Moriah Reed will now give AVS --
8 give details on AVS's inspection.

9 MS. REED:

10 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
11 Board Members. I'm Moriah Reed, a naval
12 architect with American Vessel Services
13 and I'm here to report on the annual
14 certification for the L'Auberge Casino in
15 Lake Charles.

16 The inspector's people Pete Bullard
17 and Bill Taylor did on March 21st attend
18 the riverboat L'Auberge to conduct the
19 annual inspection in accordance with the
20 Louisiana Alternate Inspection Program.

21 The inspectors reviewed fire
22 protection measures, egress routes, tested
23 emergency lighting, tested the emergency
24 generator, inspected the mooring system
25 and conducted a fire drill as well as

1 other required life safety measures.

2 The deficiencies are noted on pages
3 6 through 9 of your report; and a
4 follow-up inspection was done on May 8 and
5 all outstanding items are now considered
6 satisfactory as outlined in the
7 supplemental report issued on May 8th of
8 2024.

9 The 2024 annual survey that is
10 required by the Louisiana Gaming Control
11 Board is now complete and the L'Auberge is
12 considered fit to continue its intended
13 service as a dockside gaming riverboat in
14 the state of Louisiana.

15 It is the recommendation of AVS that
16 the L'Auberge Casino of Lake Charles be
17 issued a certificate of compliance for
18 2024.

19 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

20 We now present these findings to the
21 board and request upon the Board accepting
22 the report submitted by AVS, you'll move
23 for the issuance of L'Auberge Casino Lake
24 Charles a certificate of compliance which
25 will expire on May 31st, 2025.

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CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

So we're 100% compliant at this point?

MS. REED:

Yes, sir.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Well, thank you.

And thank you Pinn National -- Pinn Entertainment, if you're listening, for your help on this.

Members, I would ask for a motion to issue a certificate of compliance which will expire May 31st of 2025 for L'Auberge Lake Charles.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Ms. Berry has made that motion and Mr. Avant has seconded that motion.

Is there any discussion? Is there any opposition to that motion?

Hearing none, that motion carries.

Thank you.

Item No. B will be the consideration of a certificate of compliance for the alternate riverboat inspection of the gaming vessel of Bossier City Casino

1 Venture LLC doing business as
2 Margaritaville Resort & Casino.
3 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

4 Again, good morning, Chairman Johns
5 and Board Members. Assistant Attorney
6 General Kanick Lewis, Jr., here with Ms.
7 Moriah Reed of AVS.

8 We're here in the matter of the
9 issuance of a certificate of compliance
10 for Margaritaville Casino.

11 On April 1st, AVS began the
12 inspection process for the approval of
13 Margaritaville's certificate of
14 compliance. Ms. Reed will now provide
15 details on AVS's inspection.

16 MS. REED:

17 Good morning again, Chairman Johns
18 and Board Members. I'm Moriah Reed, a
19 naval architect with American Vessel
20 Services. I'm here to report the annual
21 certification for Margaritaville Casino.

22 The inspector's people Pete Bullard
23 and Jeff Bowel did on April 1st and 2nd,
24 2024 attend the riverboat Margaritaville
25 to conduct the annual inspection in

1 accordance with the Louisiana Alternate
2 Inspection Program.

3 The inspectors reviewed fire
4 protection measures, egress routes,
5 observed the emergency lighting, tested
6 the emergency generator, inspected the
7 mooring system and conducted a fire drill
8 as well as other required life safety
9 items.

10 There were no deficiencies as noted
11 on page 9 of the report issued on April
12 9th of 2024.

13 The 2024 annual survey as required
14 by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board is
15 now complete and Margaritaville Casino
16 vessel is considered fit to continue its
17 continued service as a dockside gaming
18 riverboat in the state of Louisiana.

19 It is the recommendation of AVS that
20 Margaritaville Casino be issued a
21 certificate of compliance for 2024.

22 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

23 We now present these findings to the
24 Board and request upon the Board's
25 accepting the report submitted by AVS, you

1 will move for the issuance of
2 Margaritaville's certificate of
3 compliance, which will expire on May 31st,
4 2025.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Once again, we're 100% compliance.
7 And I would like again to thank Pinn
8 Entertainment for their help on this.

9 I would ask for a motion to issue a
10 certificate of compliance, which will
11 expire on May 31st of 2025 for
12 Margaritaville Resort & Casino.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Mr. Jackson has made that motion.
15 Mr. Avant has seconded that motion.

16 Is there any discussion? Any
17 opposition?

18 Hearing none, that motion carries.

19 Item No. C will be the consideration
20 of a certificate of compliance for the
21 alternate riverboat inspection of the
22 gaming vessel Treasure Chest Casino, LLC.

23 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS:

24 Chairman Johns and Board Members,
25 Assistant Attorney General Kanick Lewis,

1 Jr. With me is Ms. Moriah Reed. We're
2 here today in the matter of the issuance
3 of a certificate of compliance for the
4 Treasure Chest Casino.

5 On March 5th, the AVS began the
6 inspection process for the approval of
7 Treasure Chest Casino's certificate of
8 compliance. Ms. Reed will now provide
9 details on AVS's inspection.

10 MS. REED:

11 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
12 Board Members. I'm Moriah Reed, a naval
13 architect with American Vessel Services
14 and I'm here to report the annual
15 certification for Treasure Chest Casino in
16 Kenner, Louisiana.

17 The inspector's people Pete Bullard
18 and Billy Taylor did on March 5th attend
19 the riverboat Treasure Chest Casino to
20 conduct the annual inspection in
21 accordance with the Louisiana Alternate
22 Inspection Program.

23 The inspectors reviewed fire
24 protection measures, egress routes,
25 observed the emergency lighting, tested

1 the emergency generator, inspected the
2 mooring system and conducted a fire drill
3 as well as other required life safety
4 items.

5 The deficiencies are noted on page 6
6 and 7 of your annual report.

7 A follow-up inspection was then done
8 on March 21st and two deficiencies
9 remained outstanding.

10 These deficiencies were noted on
11 pages 3 and 4 of the supplemental survey
12 dated March 21st in your packets.

13 Another follow-up inspection was
14 conducted on May 10th, 2024, and all
15 outstanding items are now considered
16 satisfactory as outlined in the
17 supplemental survey issued on May 10th of
18 2024.

19 The 2024 annual survey as required
20 by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board is
21 now complete and Treasure Chest Casino is
22 considered fit to continue its intended
23 service as a dockside gaming riverboat in
24 the state of Louisiana.

25 It is the recommendation of AVS

1 that Treasure Chest Casino be issued the
2 certificate of compliance for 2024.

3 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS:

4 We now present these findings to the
5 and request upon your accepting this
6 report as submitted by AVS, you'll move
7 for the issuance of Treasure Chest
8 Casino's a certificate of compliance which
9 will expire on May 31st, 2025.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 '25?

12 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

13 Yes, sir.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Even though the boat's going to be
16 gone, you're still doing a one year?

17 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

18 A one year, yes. In the event that
19 it's sold or shuttered, at that point it
20 will be considered for the casino to
21 request that the certificate no longer be
22 considered or taken into consideration.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 All right. Thank you.

25 Okay. So, Members, we do have 100%

1 compliance. Once again, little later on
2 the agenda we will be taking up the land
3 base proposition for Treasurer Chest.

4 So I would ask for a motion to issue
5 a certificate of compliance, which would
6 expire June the 30th of 2025 for Treasure
7 Chest Casino, LLC.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Judge Sholes has made that motion
10 that we issue that compliance, and Ms.
11 Hamilton-Acker has seconded that motion.

12 Is there any opposition to that
13 motion?

14 Hearing none, that motion carries.

15 Next will be the consideration of a
16 certificate of compliance for the
17 alternate riverboat inspection of the
18 gaming vessel of Catfish Queen, LLC doing
19 business as the Belle of Baton Rouge.

20 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS:

21 Chairman Johns and Board Members,
22 Assistant Attorney General Kanick Lewis,
23 Junior with Ms. Moriah Reed of AVS. We're
24 here in the matter of the issuance of a
25 temporary certificate of compliance with

1 the Belle of Baton Rouge Casino.

2 On March 6th, the AVS began the
3 inspection process for the approval of
4 Belle of Baton Rouge Casino certificate of
5 compliance.

6 Ms. Reed will now provide details on
7 AVS's inspection.

8 MS. REED:

9 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
10 Board Members. I'm Moriah Reed, a naval
11 architect with American Vessel Services.
12 I'm here to report the annual
13 certification for the Belle of Baton Rouge
14 Casino.

15 The AVS inspectors Pete Bullard and
16 Billy Taylor did on March 6th of 2024
17 attend the riverboat August 3 to conduct
18 the annual inspection in accordance with
19 the Louisiana Alternate Inspection
20 Program.

21 The inspectors reviewed fire
22 protection measures, egress routes, tested
23 the emergency lighting, tested the
24 emergency generator, inspected the mooring
25 system and conducted a fire drill as well

1 as other required life safety items.

2 In this original inspection, there
3 were deficiencies as noted on pages 6
4 through 10 of the annual inspection
5 report.

6 On May 3rd, a follow-up inspection
7 was completed and four deficiencies
8 remained that are outstanding. These
9 deficiencies were noted on pages 3 and 4
10 of the supplemental survey dated May 6,
11 2024.

12 As a result of these remaining
13 deficiencies not being completely
14 satisfied, the property has requested the
15 extension of their CFC to allow sufficient
16 time to complete their deficiencies. The
17 delay appears to be contractor and
18 materials.

19 AVS has worked with the property to
20 understand the remaining deficiencies and
21 we feel that they do not pose a risk for
22 the safety of the passengers of the
23 vessel.

24 We also feel that the property is
25 working diligently to correct these

1 deficiencies, but they will take some time
2 to complete.

3 The 2024 annual survey as required
4 by the Louisiana Gaming Control Board is
5 not complete. As such, the property has
6 requested an extension. This extension
7 request regarding the property is included
8 in your package.

9 It is the recommendation of AVS that
10 the Belle of Baton Rouge be issued a
11 temporary certificate of compliance for
12 June of 2024 to allow additional time to
13 satisfy the remaining deficiencies.

14 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS:

15 We now present these findings to the
16 Board and request upon the Board's
17 acceptance of the report submitted by AVS
18 you will move for the issuance of the
19 Belle of Baton Rouge Casino's temporary
20 certificate of compliance, which will
21 expire on June 30th of 2024.

22 And if the Board has any questions,
23 there are representatives from the Belle
24 of Baton Rouge here to answer any
25 questions you may have.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 Okay. I would like someone from the
3 Belle to come up.

4 Good morning, gentlemen.

5 UNKNOWN SPEAKER:

6 Good morning to you, Chairman.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 Good morning, gentlemen.

9 Looking at the report, the one item
10 that -- that I am concerned with is the
11 sprinkler system, the pump not adequately
12 providing enough pressure for the
13 sprinkler system.

14 Am I correct in that, Moriah?

15 MS. REED:

16 Yes, sir.

17 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

18 Do we have some assurances that that
19 can be completed in the next 30 days?

20 COURT REPORTER:

21 I'm sorry. I need names of who is
22 speaking.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 I'm sorry.

25 Please identify yourself for the

1 record. My apologies.

2 MR. JONES:

3 I'm sorry.

4 My name is Danny Jones. I'm a
5 captain of the Belle of Baton Rouge
6 Casino.

7 MR. SCHWARTZ:

8 Yes. I'm Vince Schwartz, general
9 manager of the Bell of Baton Rouge Casino.

10 MR. JONES:

11 Good morning, everyone. The
12 sprinkler pump is still operational. It
13 is -- it is not reaching testing capacity.
14 There is a 500-gallon tank of water that
15 is the primary source for the sprinkler
16 head, the activated sprinkler head, and
17 that tank will provide water flow to a
18 sprinkler head for more than four minutes
19 before the pump ever kicks on.

20 At that time, once the pump reaches
21 a certain level, the pump will kick on to
22 supplement the flow. And the pump is
23 still generating over 400-gallons per
24 minute of water flow. So it's still
25 operational. It's just not reaching

1 testing capacity.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 I understand that, but in order to
4 be in compliance with the inspection,
5 we're giving -- giving y'all, you know,
6 the 30-day period. Can that problem be
7 remedied in the next 30 days?

8 MR. JONES:

9 With the current river stage is
10 going to be our problem. We'll have to
11 have divers from the outside because we
12 believe it's either going to be a valve
13 internally or something in the pipe that
14 is physically blocking the water flow. So
15 the plan right now is to have divers from
16 the outside insert a plug into the piping
17 to draw -- to draw river water. And once
18 that's done, then we will remove the valve
19 from inside and inspect it and replace it
20 as needed and inspect the internal of the
21 piping.

22 And the current river stage is 33.1
23 feet as opposed to present 33.5 in the
24 coming days. That generates a lot of
25 current and makes it for unsafe for diving

1 operations, so we may have to wait. The
2 divers have said they like it ideally
3 below 20 feet. I don't know exactly when
4 it's going to get to that point, but it
5 will be up to the diving companies to let
6 us know when it's safe.

7 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

8 In the event that you had a fire
9 tomorrow morning, would that sprinkler
10 system work?

11 MR. JONES:

12 Yes.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 Okay. Ms. Reed, are you -- are you
15 in agreement with that -- with that
16 statement?

17 MS. REED:

18 Yes, sir.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 Okay. All right. So just -- I want
21 to ask you to make every effort to
22 schedule your divers and get us in
23 compliance.

24 MR. JONES:

25 Yes.

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CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Any questions for the Belle? Any questions?

Okay. Hearing none.

Thank y'all very much. Thank you for being here, Bruce.

MR. BRUCE:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Anybody else? Any other questions? Okay.

If not, I would ask for a motion to issue a certificate -- a temporary certificate of compliance, which will expire on June 30th, 2024 for the Belle of Baton Rouge.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

And Mr. Poole has made that motion. Ms. Berry has seconded that motion.

Is there any discussion? Any opposition?

Hearing none, that motion does carry.

Thank you very much.

Okay. In consideration of a

1 certificate of compliance for the
2 alternate riverboat gaming landside
3 inspection of the gaming vessel of St.
4 Charles Gaming Company, LLC doing business
5 as Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles.

6 Good morning.

7 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MR. LEWIS:

8 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
9 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney
10 General Kanick Lewis, Junior. I'm here in
11 the matter of the issuance of a
12 certificate of compliance for Horseshoe
13 Casino Lake Charles.

14 On May 8, the Louisiana State Fire
15 Marshal completed the inspection process
16 for the approval of Horseshoe Casino
17 Charles's annual certificate of
18 compliance. The Board was provided a copy
19 of that report; and, as you can tell,
20 there were no issues found.

21 I now present these findings to the
22 Board and request upon the board accepting
23 the report as submitted by the state fire
24 marshal, you will move for the issuance of
25 Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles a

1 certificate of compliance, which will
2 expire on May 31st, 2025.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 If I'm not mistaken, this is the
5 very first fire marshal inspection that
6 we've had done since we changed the
7 statutes on this.

8 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

9 That's correct.

10 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

11 I think that's correct.

12 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

13 Yes.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Right. And it's working well as
16 it's intended?

17 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

18 As of now, yes.

19 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

20 As of now. Okay. All right.
21 That's great news.

22 Okay. Any questions for Mr. Kanick?
23 Any questions?

24 Okay. I would ask for a motion to
25 issue a certificate of compliance, which

1 will expire on May 31st of 2025 for St.
2 Charles Gaming Company, LLC doing business
3 as Horseshoe Casino Lake Charles.

4 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

5 Ms. Berry has made that motion, and
6 Ms. Traylor has seconded that motion.

7 Is there any discussion? Any
8 opposition?

9 Hearing none, that motion carries.

10 Thank you, Mr. Lewis.

11 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEWIS:

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

14 All right. We now move into the
15 consideration of a petition for the
16 determination of substantial completion
17 and approval to commence gaming operations
18 filed by Treasure Chest Casino.

19 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LANDRY:

20 Good morning. Chairman Jones and
21 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney
22 General Lisha Landry here today to present
23 Treasure Chest Casino, LLC's request for
24 determination of substantial completion
25 and approval to commence gaming operations

1 at its new riverboat gaming landside
2 facility. The licensee is owned by the
3 Boyd Gaming Corporation and its licensed
4 berth site is located in Jefferson Parish
5 along Lake Pontchartrain.

6 The Board previously approved the
7 licensee's request to construct and
8 relocate its gaming operations to a
9 125,000-square foot landside facility
10 within 1200 feet of its licensed berth.
11 As a reminder, the Board also approved new
12 non-gaming amenities for the approved
13 project listed in the licensee's statement
14 of conditions, which include: At least
15 one multipurpose event center with seating
16 for a minimum of 300 people; a sports bar
17 or lounge; at least two restaurants, which
18 may include a cafe' or a steakhouse; and a
19 coffee shop or quick service outlet.

20 For consideration today is the
21 licensee's request for Board approval to
22 open and commence gaming operations at its
23 newly constructed landside facility on
24 Wednesday, June 5th, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

25 Before the licensee can commence

1 gaming operations at the landside
2 facility, the Board must determine that
3 the landside facility and approved
4 project, including all non-gaming
5 amenities are substantially complete. The
6 Board must also issue the licensee a
7 riverboat gaming landside facility
8 certificate of compliance to operate, and
9 grant the licensee approval to commence
10 gaming operations on a specific date.

11 The Board may, alternatively, grant
12 the Chairman the authority to determine
13 and issue those approvals on the Board's
14 behalf.

15 In order for the Board to determine
16 substantial completion, the Board must
17 receive an inspection report from the
18 office of state fire marshal, a
19 certificate of substantial completion from
20 the -- of approved project's architect, a
21 certificate of occupancy from the City of
22 Kenner, all other required local and state
23 permits, and written confirmation from the
24 Louisiana State Police, Gaming Enforcement
25 Division of substantial completion of the

1 landside facility.

2 As of today, the Board and Division
3 has received the certificate of
4 substantial completion and readiness for
5 occupancy and use from the architect and
6 an inspection report from the office of
7 the state fire marshal.

8 It is the division's understanding
9 that, on May 17th, 2024, the licensee
10 obtained a temporary certificate of
11 occupancy from the City of Kenner as an
12 e-mail, but the division has not been able
13 to verify that correspondence is standard
14 operating procedure or if there are any
15 deficiencies that were cited that would
16 prevent the issuance of a full certificate
17 of occupancy to the licensee.

18 In addition, the licensee has only
19 submitted a temporary state alcohol permit
20 and state office of public health permit.
21 Currently, the licensee's local alcohol
22 permit has not been submitted. As a
23 result, the division cannot provide
24 written confirmation of substantial
25 completion at this time.

1 Given that it's likely that the
2 licensee will obtain the outstanding
3 documents before the June 5th, 2024
4 opening date, the Board is within its
5 authority to allow the Chairman to accept
6 any outstanding document on the Board's
7 behalf in order to determine substantial
8 completion of the licensee's landside
9 facility.

10 As it relates to commencement of
11 gaming operations, a licensee cannot
12 commence gaming operations at a landside
13 facility until the Division determines
14 that all necessary staffing, training,
15 security and surveillance, technical,
16 accounting and internal controls are
17 acceptable.

18 The Division determines compliance
19 and confirms substantial completion
20 through the successful completion of a
21 preoperative inspection of the landside
22 facility.

23 The Division has approved the
24 licensee's preliminary surveillance system
25 plans, security plans, and related

1 staffing for the landside facility.
2 However, there are revisions being made to
3 the final surveillance and security
4 procedures, internal controls and the
5 Division's offices. These items have not
6 received final approval from the Division
7 at this time.

8 As of today, all the requirements of
9 the landside facility are not functional
10 and operational. So, the Division's
11 pre-operative inspection of the landside
12 facility is still ongoing at this time.

13 On June 2nd, 2024, the licensee will
14 close and cease gaming operations on its
15 vessel in order to transport gaming
16 devices remaining on the vessel to the
17 landside facility. Following the closure
18 of the vessel and final transport of the
19 devices, the Division will conduct an
20 extensive review of the internal controls
21 and surveillance and security systems and
22 verification and communication testing of
23 all of the gaming devices.

24 At the conclusion of the inspection,
25 Division considers the approved project

1 substantially complete.

2 As it relates to the riverboat
3 gaming landside facility's certificate of
4 compliance, Act 126 of the 2023 regular
5 session requires the landside facilities
6 to be inspected prior to the commencement
7 of gaming operations, annually, and as
8 requested by the Board. The office of
9 state fire marshal is authorized to
10 inspect riverboat gaming landside
11 facilities seeking a license or a
12 certificate of compliance from the Board.
13 A Board issued certificate of compliance
14 is needed to allow the licensee to
15 commence gaming operations at a landside
16 facility.

17 On May 16, 2024, the office of state
18 fire marshal issued its inspection report
19 for the licensee's landside facility,
20 which indicated that there were no
21 apparent deficiencies or cautionary codes
22 cited. While the Board may issue the
23 licensee a riverboat landside facility
24 certificate of compliance based on the
25 fire marshal's inspection, given that the

1 Division's preoperative inspection is
2 ongoing and certain required documents
3 remain outstanding, it's recommended that
4 the certificate of compliance for the
5 landside facility not be issued until the
6 Division provides written confirmation of
7 substantial completion of the landside
8 facility.

9 In its petition, the licensee
10 requested that the Board grant the
11 Chairman the authority to issue any
12 approvals necessary for the licensee to
13 conduct gaming operations on June 5th,
14 2024. A preopening event is scheduled for
15 June 5th, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
16 with gaming activities beginning at 4:00
17 p.m.

18 As the licensee has not provided the
19 necessary documents and the preoperative
20 inspection is still ongoing, and the
21 licensee's proposed opening date is prior
22 to the next Board meeting, the Board may
23 authorize the Chairman to determine
24 substantial completion and approval to
25 commence of the gaming subject to further

1 inspection and approval by the Division.

2 If necessary, the Division will
3 notify the Chairman of any issues or
4 deficiencies that occurred during the
5 opening that would require the licensee to
6 cease gaming operations at the landside
7 facility until such time as the issues or
8 deficiencies have been corrected to the
9 satisfaction of the Division.

10 The Board may grant the Chairman the
11 authority to cease gaming operations and
12 to allow the licensee to recommence based
13 on the division's recommendation.

14 Please note that the licensee's
15 statement of conditions and legal property
16 description and indemnity and hold
17 harmless agreement have been updated to
18 reflect the operation of the riverboat
19 gaming landside facility. The licensee
20 and the Board will have to execute these
21 documents prior to commencement of gaming
22 operations in the facility.

23 As it relates to the vessel, the
24 licensee must maintain the certificate of
25 compliance of all remaining requirements

1 for the vessel as recommended by AVS while
2 gaming devices, patrons or passengers are
3 onboard and until the vessel is completely
4 shuttered.

5 The licensee anticipates removing
6 all gaming devices and gaming equipment
7 from the vessel by June 30th, 2024. The
8 Board or the Chairman delegates such
9 authority may approve the substantial
10 completion of the certificate of
11 compliance when the Board receives
12 confirmation that the vessel is completely
13 closed to the public and to
14 non-substantial personnel, the vessel is
15 secured and completely shuttered, the
16 vessel has no gaming devices or equipment
17 stored on it and the vessel is not being
18 used for any purpose whatsoever.

19 Based on the landside facility's
20 current status and the June 5th, 2024
21 anticipated opening date, a resolution has
22 been prepared for the Board's
23 consideration which grants the Chairman of
24 the Board to accept any outstanding
25 documents or certifications, issue the

1 licensee's riverboat gaming landside
2 facility a certificate of compliance,
3 determine substantial completion of the
4 approved project, approve commencement of
5 gaming operations and any other related or
6 incidental approvals necessary for the
7 licensee to commence gaming operations in
8 the facility or cease gaming operations on
9 its vessel subject to further inspection
10 and recommendation by the Division.

11 So if there's no questions for me at
12 this time, I would like to turn it over to
13 the licensee for a presentation to the
14 Board.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 All right. Any questions for Ms.
17 Landry at this time? If not, I will like
18 to invite Boyd to come to the table.

19 MS. BOLES:

20 Good morning. My name is Janet
21 Boles, and I represent Boyd Gaming in the
22 State of Louisiana. We're excited to be
23 here today and excited about our opening
24 on June the 5th. We're here to seek the
25 final regulatory approval we need from

1 y'all in order to move onshore to open up
2 and commence gaming by June 5th.

3 With me is Vince Schwartz, he is
4 regional vice president of Boyd, and Kim
5 Etland, who is vice president and general
6 manager of Treasure Chest.

7 We want to thank the Division and
8 the attorney general for working with us
9 tirelessly and with our team, they worked
10 tirelessly as well, to make sure that we
11 have a timely and flawless opening.

12 The Division and the attorney
13 general worked all year long, and we thank
14 them for that.

15 We are excited to show you the
16 fruits of our labor, but technology is
17 just not cooperating with us today.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 No, it's not.

20 MS. BOLES:

21 Fortunately, thanks to Heather, we
22 were able to get some copies made upstairs
23 through a friend of hers, and so you'll
24 have something for you for our team to go
25 over with you. So with that, I'll turn it

1 over to Vince.

2 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

3 Morning, sir.

4 MR. SCHWARTZ:

5 Good morning, Chairman Johns, Board
6 Members. I was here back in December of
7 --

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Identify yourself.

10 MR. SCHWARTZ:

11 Oh, I'm sorry.

12 I'm Vincent Schwartz, senior vice
13 president of Boyd Gaming.

14 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

15 Thank you.

16 MR. SCHWARTZ:

17 And so, yeah, we were here back in
18 December of 2021 when this project was
19 approved by the Board, and we're certainly
20 happy to be back here today seeking
21 approval to actually open the vessel. And
22 we did have -- you know, and as Janet
23 mentioned, you know, Kim and the property
24 dealers worked very closely with the AG's
25 office, the state police, the audit

1 division. Everybody involved has been
2 very helpful in working through this
3 process.

4 So, you know, we've actually, you
5 know, begun executing on some of that
6 transition plan with the relocation of
7 some equipment to that side and kind of a
8 work in progress; and we look forward to
9 hitting the ground running in the next
10 couple of weeks with board approval, of
11 course.

12 And we have been providing the Board
13 with a fairly in-depth report monthly, and
14 it has some pictures of their facility as
15 its moving along. We put together a
16 presentation just to kind of give you a
17 little reminder of what the facility looks
18 like today, and then some pictures of the
19 existing facility, the new facility as
20 it's moving along.

21 And when we were here back in
22 December, we showed you some renderings of
23 the project; and the presentation that you
24 have in front of you there has got the
25 rendering we presented and then the

1 picture of how it looked in the last week
2 or so, so you kind of see that it actually
3 looks very much remarkable just like the
4 renderings that sometimes it probably
5 doesn't have as colors and things change
6 over the years as you get through the
7 process. So these pictures are probably a
8 week or two old, in some cases, and we
9 still are hanging artwork and moving
10 furniture in and doing some of the work in
11 the building; and I'm sure some of our
12 state police folks can tell you that it's
13 moving along pretty, pretty quickly.

14 So I can take you through the slide
15 show even though now it's a paper
16 presentation, but we can kind of flip
17 through it and you can kind of see what we
18 presented back in -- probably in December
19 and then how it looks today.

20 So page 1 is the existing facility
21 today. You can see on the west side of
22 the levee, our parking lot directly on the
23 other side; and that's where the new
24 facility will be located. And we have
25 some other pictures that will have some

1 identifying marks. But what we've built
2 is just under a 50,000-square foot casino,
3 a little over 900 slot units, 32 table
4 games. We're going to have a sportsbook
5 and a sports bar connected, and then we'll
6 have a steakhouse and a cafe along with a
7 quick service restaurant as well.

8 The event center that was mentioned
9 earlier is approximately 10,000-square
10 feet and we should be able to seat our 300
11 plus, and then 1700 or so conveniently
12 located parking; and that's been the
13 challenge of the property to today, you
14 have to ride a shuttle about a half a mile
15 and then walk in a parking lot to a
16 shelter in the rain, so it certainly has
17 been a challenge over the years.

18 So the next slide will show you
19 where the -- kind of where the land base
20 is going to be placed in the parking lot
21 and then additional service parking across
22 the street, which is what we're using
23 currently for temporary parking while the
24 construction is ongoing.

25 And then page 5 is a layout of the

1 casino. Area to the right is all back of
2 the house stuff, but you can see the
3 entrance to the left of the page, the
4 front entrance where the port is and the
5 casino space with all of the restaurants
6 on restaurant row, as we're calling it, on
7 that side. This will be an under -- and
8 over 21 facility only, even the
9 restaurants and the banquet space.

10 And a little bit of information
11 specific about the restaurants and the
12 cafe, a little over 200 seats, quick
13 service 32, the sportsbook and sports bar
14 132 seats and 87 in the steakhouse
15 restaurant and bar, and then approximately
16 300 in the event center.

17 And then there's some other layout
18 of the back of the house, not -- not
19 exciting at all but a whole lot nicer and
20 bigger than we have today on a riverboat,
21 so --

22 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

23 And that was necessary.

24 MR. SCHWARTZ:

25 Yeah. So we're pleased with that.

1 But just wanted to give you a flavor of
2 what it looks like inside.

3 On page 9, that's the rendering that
4 we presented last year. And then if you
5 look to the next page, you'll see how it
6 looked -- it looks like a couple of weeks
7 ago for that picture there. But it does
8 certainly resemble the rendering.

9 And then the casino floor is the
10 next rendering. And then you can see the
11 casino floor that looks just like it.

12 And then page 13 was the front of
13 the steakhouse that we presented back in
14 2021. And then the steakhouse as it looks
15 today. Very much the same. And then
16 another picture of the steakhouse bar
17 area.

18 And then we are relocating our
19 Fanduel sportsbook to the new facility,
20 and you get a rendering of that. And then
21 actually, very, very close to the
22 rendering.

23 And the inside of the sports bar
24 that's directly connected to the
25 sportsbook, lots of video, TV walls and

1 some great food that we can serve in the
2 sportsbook. And that's a work in progress
3 still. It's further along than that
4 today. Kim can attest to that.

5 And then our quick service
6 restaurant, which is what we presented,
7 and then how it looks today. Slightly
8 different brick color but very close.

9 And then the inside of the cafe
10 rendering, and the inside of the cafe as
11 it looks today.

12 And then the event center, and the
13 event center as it looks today.

14 So everything is present and
15 accounted for and moving along pretty
16 quickly. And we'll look forward to seeing
17 you for a tour, if anybody would like to
18 come for a tour.

19 And, again, we're -- you know, it's
20 been a long time coming. The law passed
21 2018. Started working on it 2019. COVID
22 got in the way. We got back in front of
23 it in 2021, got in front of you and the
24 Board graciously approved it and we're --
25 we're almost there.

1 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

2 I can tell you, in 2018 when the
3 legislature approved this, this is exactly
4 what we had in mind. It would be a
5 capital investment into a first class
6 property that would bring economic
7 development to the -- to the State of
8 Louisiana. And y'all have surpassed your
9 -- your obligations. And I'm -- as
10 chairman, I'm very proud of what y'all
11 have done. Throughout this whole process
12 it -- it has not been a real glitch, you
13 know. We had some issues, I think, with
14 the Corps early on, if I'm not mistaken.
15 It's surely not y'all's fault, but this is
16 -- this is first class; and I'm very proud
17 that we're part of this.

18 So, Kim, any comments you'd like to
19 make?

20 MS. ETLAND:

21 Nothing other than I'm Kim Etland,
22 I'm general manager of Treasure Chest.
23 But thank you all. We thank the AG's
24 office. They have helped us immeasurably,
25 as well as the state police. They've

1 been our partners in this, so we thank
2 everybody for that.

3 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

4 Thank y'all very much.

5 Does the -- Major, does the division
6 have any comments? Any issues at this
7 point in time?

8 MAJOR MCNEAL:

9 I'll let the lieutenant discuss any
10 issues. He's in charge of that.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 All right. Sounds great.

13 Okay. Members, any comments from
14 the Board? Any questions from the Board
15 while we have these --

16 I would like to ask that you pass on
17 our congratulations and our thanks to Mr.
18 Boyd and to Keith Smith, Mr. Keith Smith
19 also. I know Keith will be down for the
20 June 5th, I'll talk with him about a
21 couple of things, you know. Looking
22 forward to seeing him again.

23 So please express our thanks to the
24 whole Boyd staff, hierarchy, whatever. We
25 appreciate that commitment that y'all have

1 made. So y'all surpassed your -- your
2 promise to us, so we thank y'all.

3 Okay. Do we have further comments,
4 further presentations?

5 MS. LANDRY:

6 No. We just have a resolution
7 prepared for the Board's approval.

8 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

9 Anything else, Major?

10 MAJOR MCNEAL:

11 No.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Members, we do have a
14 resolution prepared. I would like to ask
15 for a motion to adopt that resolution.

16 MR. SHOLES:

17 So moved.

18 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

19 And Judge Sholes has moved that we
20 adopt the resolution that will be read.

21 MR. POOLE:

22 I'd like to second that.

23 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

24 Mr. Poole would like to second that.
25 And so, Ms. Hood, would you read the

1 resolution, please.

2 MS. HOOD:

3 On the 20th day of May 2024, the
4 Louisiana Gaming Control Board did, in a
5 duly noticed public meeting, consider the
6 petition for determination of substantial
7 completion and approval to commence gaming
8 operations filed by Treasure Chest Casino;
9 and upon motion duly made and seconded,
10 the Board adopted this resolution.

11 Whereas on December 16th, 2021, the
12 Board previously approved the licensee's
13 request to relocate its gaming operations
14 to a newly constructed landside facility
15 to be included as part of the approved
16 project.

17 Whereas, the licensee desires to
18 commence gaming operations in its
19 riverboat gaming landside facility on June
20 5th, 2024.

21 Whereas, the Louisiana State Police
22 Gaming Enforcement Division's preoperative
23 inspection of the landside facility and
24 approved project is ongoing.

25 Whereas, the Board is in receipt of

1 the following items: The certificate of
2 substantial completion submitted by the
3 architect for the approved project and an
4 inspection report issued by the Louisiana
5 Office of State Fire Marshal.

6 And, whereas, certain documents and
7 reports needed for the Board to determine
8 substantial completion of the licensee's
9 landside facility and approval to commence
10 gaming operations in the facility remain
11 outstanding.

12 Now, therefore, be it resolved that
13 the Chairman is hereby authorized to
14 accept the certificate of occupancy and
15 all other required state and local permits
16 for the licensee's landside facility for
17 which issuance shall be confirmed by the
18 Division.

19 Be it further resolved that the
20 Chairman is hereby authorized to issue a
21 riverboat gaming landside facility
22 certificate of compliance based on a
23 recommendation of Louisiana Office of
24 State Fire Marshal and written
25 confirmation of substantial completion

1 from the Division on behalf of the Board.

2 Be it further resolved that the
3 Chairman is hereby authorized to determine
4 substantial completion of the approved
5 project in accordance with the licensee's
6 statement of conditions to the riverboat
7 gaming license, and to eliminate the
8 requirement for work-in-progress reports
9 on the construction of the approved
10 project on behalf of the Board.

11 Be it further resolved that the
12 Chairman is hereby authorized to approve
13 the licensee's request to commence gaming
14 operations at its facility on June 5th,
15 2024 at 9:00 a.m., subject to the
16 successful completion of the prospective
17 -- of the preoperative inspection to be
18 conducted by the Division and the
19 Chairman's determination of substantial
20 completion of the approved project on
21 behalf of the Board.

22 Be it further resolved that upon the
23 recommendation of the division, the
24 Chairman is hereby authorized to order the
25 licensee to cease gaming operations in

1 order to correct any issues or
2 deficiencies that may arise after the
3 opening of the landside facility until
4 such time as said issues or deficiencies
5 have been corrected and determined
6 satisfactory by the Division, and to issue
7 an order allowing the recommencement of
8 gaming operations within accordance with
9 the Division's determination and
10 recommendation for such.

11 Be it further resolved that the
12 Chairman is hereby authorized to grant any
13 other related and/or incidental approvals
14 necessary for the licensee's commencement
15 of gaming operations at the landside
16 facility and/or the cessation of gaming
17 operations on the vessel, including, but
18 not limited to, removing the requirement
19 for a certificate of compliance for the
20 licensee's shuttered vessel at the
21 appropriate time.

22 Thus done and signed in Baton Rouge,
23 Louisiana, this 20th day of May 2024.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Okay. Thank you, Ms. Hood.

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So we do have a motion by Mr. Sholes, seconded by Mr. Poole to adopt this resolution.

Ms. Hood, would you call the roll, please?

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Avant.

MR. AVANT:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Berry.

MS. BERRY:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Jackson.

MR. JACKSON:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Lewis.

MS. LEWIS:

(No response.)

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Poole.

MR. POOLE:

Yes.

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MS. HOOD:

Ms. Hamilton-Acker.

MS. HAMILTON-ACKER:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Mr. Sholes.

MR. SHOLES:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Ms. Traylor.

MS. TRAYLOR:

Yes.

MS. HOOD:

Chairman Johns.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Yes.

So by unanimous vote, this
resolution is hereby adopted.

Congratulations.

MS. ETLAND:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

Thank you very much.

MS. ETLAND:

Thank you.

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CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

We look forward to seeing you on the 5th. And again, give our thanks to Boyd.

MS. ETLAND:

We will. Thank you.

MR. SCHWARTZ:

Thank you.

CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

So, Members, for the record, any time we have a landbased operation under -- under construction, the licensee is required to us a monthly detailed report of -- of the construction. And it's received at the Board. We do review it. It's not just a matter that we wake up one morning and we have a completed project. We -- we walk through this project on a monthly basis with the licensee, so just to let you know.

Okay. We now move into our rule making. We have first the consideration of adoption of the amendment of L.A.C. 42, procedures of agenda item 7A and B.

And good morning.

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL JOHNSON:

1 Good morning. Good morning,
2 Chairman Johns, Board Members. I'm
3 Assistant Attorney General Venise Johnson
4 here in the matter of the rule adoption
5 for item No. 7A and B. At in it's meeting
6 on December 19th, 2023, the Board was
7 willing to answer to promulgation
8 procedures for the rules listed in item
9 No. 7A and B on today's agenda.

10 Following these votes, the attorney
11 general's office caused to be published in
12 the Louisiana Register notices of intent
13 to the proposed rules directed all
14 individuals with questions or concerns to
15 contact the attorney general's office.

16 No comments were received for items
17 No. 7A and B during the time and the
18 manner and method described in Louisiana
19 Revised Statute 49:961 A.

20 As part of the promulgation process,
21 reports were submitted to the Board's
22 house and senate oversight committees.
23 The first report detailed the substance of
24 the proposed rules, and the second report
25 informed the committees of the questions

1 and concerns voiced by the public.

2 Following the delivery of the second
3 reports of the committees, they were given
4 30 days in which to call hearings to
5 satisfy any concerns they might have had.

6 As no hearings were called, the
7 default action of the committees following
8 the lack of the 30-day period is to
9 approve the proposed rules.

10 If the Board has no questions, a
11 motion to adopt the rules is needed.

12 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

13 Okay. Thank you.

14 So, Members, both of these sections
15 here were put out for public comment.
16 They got no public comment whatsoever on
17 each one of these.

18 The second part has to do with our
19 open meetings accessibility that puts us
20 in compliance with state statute stuff, a
21 bill that moved through the legislature
22 last year and puts us in compliance with
23 that.

24 So any questions? Any questions?
25 If not, I would entertain a motion to

1 adopt the rule making procedures as
2 section 7A and B.

3 Ms. Berry has made that motion. Ms.
4 Hamilton-Acker has seconded that motion.

5 Is there any discussion? Any
6 opposition to that motion?

7 Hearing none, that motion carries.

8 Thank you, Ms. Johnson, I appreciate
9 it.

10 Now moving to video gaming issues,
11 the consideration of a truck stop
12 application, Big Easy Travel Center, LLC
13 doing business as Big Easy Travel Center.
14 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. NATHAN:

15 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
16 Board Members. I'm Assistant Attorney
17 General Andrea Nathan appearing for you
18 this morning in the matter of the original
19 application for a Type 5 video draw poker
20 gaming license by Big Easy Travel Center,
21 LLC doing business as Big Easy Travel
22 Center.

23 This truck stop facility is located
24 in Orleans Parish. And on June 14th,
25 2022, the following events took place:

1 The applicant acquired the business and
2 business assets of Maloney Sept, LLC doing
3 business as Big Easy Travel Center, who
4 previously held a video gaming license for
5 the truck stop.

6 The applicant acquired the immovable
7 property where the truck stop facility is
8 located; and the applicant entered into a
9 video draw poker device placement
10 agreement with Bordertown Gaming, LLC.

11 Investigator William Landry
12 inspected the truck stop facility and
13 conducted suitability investigations of
14 the associated persons, and he is present
15 this morning to report his findings to the
16 board.

17 MR. LANDRY:

18 Morning, Chairman Johns and Board
19 Members. Investigator William Landry,
20 State Police Gaming Enforcement. I
21 conducted an updated suitability check on
22 Aziz Tejani, Snehal Patel, Amit Patel,
23 Pinu Patel, Ankur Patel, Akhil Tejani and
24 Alnoor Tejani, as well as their spouses,
25 who previously submitted to suitability

1 investigations in connection with the
2 video poker licenses.

3 An on-site inspection was conducted
4 and it was determined that the
5 establishment had met all criteria set
6 forth in the video gaming laws as a
7 qualified truck stop facility.

8 All required licenses and permits
9 were posted and valid at the time of
10 inspection. The establishment consisted
11 of at least five contiguous acres,
12 specifically 7.261 acres. The applicant
13 is operating the truck stop facility at a
14 location that was licensed within the past
15 36 months and is not subject to the rule
16 that they must be one mile from a school,
17 church, playground, synagogue, public
18 library, residence and buildings on the
19 National Historic Registry.

20 I found no information to preclude
21 the issuance of a Type 5 license to the
22 Big Easy Travel Center, LLC doing business
23 as Big Easy Travel Center or to preclude
24 the current members or their spouses from
25 continuing to participate in the gaming

1 industry.

2 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL MS. NATHAN:

3 The office of the attorney general
4 has reviewed the file prepared by the
5 office of the state police and the
6 information contained therein would not
7 preclude the issuance of a type 5 video
8 draw gaming license to Big Easy Travel
9 Center, LLC doing business as Big Easy
10 Travel Center.

11 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

12 Any questions, members? Any
13 discussion?

14 If not, I would entertain a motion
15 to approve the truck stop application for
16 Big Easy Travel Center, LLC doing business
17 as Big Easy Travel Center.

18
19 Judge Sholes has made that motion to
20 approve that application. Mr. Avant has
21 seconded that motion.

22 And is there any discussion? Any
23 opposition to that motion?

24 Hearing none, that motion carries.
25 Okay. The last on the agenda,

1 ladies and gentlemen, we have one proposed
2 settlement today. On the agenda we have
3 Delta Personnel, Incorporated for a
4 proposed settlement.

5 Good morning.

6 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL HOUSTON:

7 Good morning, Chairman Johns and
8 Board members. I'm Assistant Attorney
9 General Delancey Houston here in the
10 matter of the settlement of Delta
11 Personnel, Incorporated, which holds a
12 non-gaming supplier permit. This
13 settlement addresses the permittee's
14 failure to submit their renewal
15 application to the division at least 60
16 days prior to the expiration of the permit
17 and the permittee's failure to notify the
18 division of the permittee's management
19 change as required by gaming law.

20 The civil penalty contained in this
21 settlement is \$1,062.50 and addresses the
22 penalty for the violations of gaming law,
23 an amount that is well established for
24 violations of this type.

25 The settlement has been signed by

1 the hearing officer and is now before the
2 board for final approval.

3 I will be also happy to answer any
4 questions you may have at this time.

5 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

6 Okay. Any questions? Any
7 questions, members?

8 If not, I would entertain a motion
9 to approve the settlement of Delta
10 Personnel, Incorporated.

11 MR. JACKSON:

12 So moved.

13 MS. TRAYLOR:

14 Second.

15 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

16 Mr. Jackson has moved that we
17 approve that settlement. Ms. Traylor has
18 seconded that motion.

19 Is there any discussion? Any
20 opposition?

21 Hearing none, that motion carries.

22 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL HOUSTON:

23 Thank you.

24 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

25 Thank you.

1 So, ladies and gentlemen, next month
2 we will be back in the state capitol
3 building once again, and the public out
4 there will be able to watch us on video
5 once again and with the calls that we get
6 as to why can't we watch it on television
7 streaming live anymore. So, anyway, we'll
8 be back at the capitol.

9 June 20th will be our next board
10 meeting.

11 Any further business to come before
12 the Board?

13 Any comments.

14 MR. JACKSON:

15 Move to adjourn.

16 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

17 If not, Mr. Jackson moves that we
18 adjourn.

19 MS. BERRY:

20 I second.

21 CHAIRMAN JOHNS:

22 And Ms. Berry has seconded that
23 motion. Any opposition?

24 Hearing none, that motion carries.

25 Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for

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REPORTER'S PAGE

I, BELINDA K. AMERSON, Certified Court Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, the officer, as defined in Rule 28 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and/or Article 1434 (B) of the Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure, before whom this sworn testimony was taken, do hereby state on the record:

That due to the interaction in the spontaneous discourse of this proceeding, dashes (--) have been used to indicate pauses, changes in thought, and/or talkovers; that same is the proper method for a Court Reporter's transcription of a proceeding, and that dashes (--) do not indicate that words or phrases have been left out of this transcript; also, that any words and/or names which could not be verified through reference material have been denoted with the phrase "(phonetically spelled)."

BELINDA K. AMERSON, CCR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

This certificate is valid only for a transcript accompanied by my original signature and original required seal on this page.

I, BELINDA K. AMERSON, Certified Court Reporter, in and for the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom this testimony was taken, do hereby certify that this hearing was reported by me in the stenotype reporting method, was prepared and transcribed by me or under my personal direction and supervision, and is a true and correct transcript to the best of my ability and understanding;

That the transcript has been prepared in compliance with transcript format guidelines required by statute or by rules of the board;

That I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules and advisory opinions of the board;

That I am not related to counsel or the parties herein, nor am I otherwise interested in the outcome of this matter.

Belinda Amerson

BELINDA K. AMERSON, CCR
CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER

